# SuccessMaker 5.4
# System Requirements

NCS Learn™

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# Introduction

NCS Learn's software is a comprehensive interactive curriculum of educational software. It offers thousands of hours of customized interactive instruction for learners of all ages, from kindergartners to adults. NCS Learn™ continues to expand and enhance its multimedia educational software offerings in order to improve student achievement and enhance classroom management.

This document provides detailed information about system recommendations, hard drive space requirements, and network capacities.

The system recommendations contained in this document are subject to change at any time due to hardware and software changes beyond the control of NCS Learn. Changes may include, but are not limited to, operating systems and hardware technologies dictated by the market.

## Using This Guide

The following style convention is used in this guide. It alerts you to a special type of information.

Indicates specific information that, if overlooked, could affect system performance.

Indicates additional information about a subject that is not essential but that some readers may find useful.

# System Recommendations

## Windows Stations

If you are using the Writer's Studio course, you must use the specifications listed in the Recommendations column of the tables that follow.

| Component | Minimum Requirements | Recommendations |
|---|---|---|
| **Operating System** | Specified below | Specified below |
| • Windows® 95/98 | • Processor: Pentium®, 90 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 32 MB<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors | • Processor: Pentium II @ 233 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 32 MB<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors |
| • Windows NT® Workstation 4.0 with Service Pack 5 (or higher)<br>**NOTE:** DO NOT use Service Pack 6.0a.<br>**NOTE:** Windows NT Workstation 4.0 is NOT supported in SOLO™* or peer-to-peer configurations. | • Processor: Pentium II @ 233 MHz<br>• Memory: 64 MB<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors | • Processor: Pentium III @ 450 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 64 MB<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors |
| **Monitor Resolution** | 800 x 600 with 256 colors | 800 x 600 with thousands of colors |
| **Hard Disk Drive Space** | 200 MB (minimum) of free disk space | 200 MB (minimum) of free disk space |
| | **NOTE:** Free disk space is the space remaining on the disk after the operating system and all third-party applications have been installed. The history station on a peer-to-peer network requires additional free disk space; NCS Learn recommends 1 MB per student (for the student's portfolio files and workbook files, if any). | |
| **CD-ROM and/or DVD Drive** | **SOLO™ and peer-to-peer stations:**<br>• One 4x CD-ROM drive at each station to run the courseware<br>• One additional 4x CD-ROM drive at each station using the full-motion video option<br>**Stations on server-based networks:**<br>• One 2x (or faster) DVD drive at *one* of the stations for installing the courseware<br>• One 2x DVD drive or one 4x CD-ROM drive for each station that is using the full-motion video option | **SOLO and peer-to-peer stations:**<br>• One 8x CD-ROM drive at each station to run the courseware<br>• One additional 8x CD-ROM drive at each station using the full-motion video option<br>**Stations on server-based networks:**<br>• One 2x (or faster) DVD drive at *one* of the stations for installing the courseware<br>• One 2x DVD drive or one 8x CD-ROM drive for each station that is using the full-motion video option |
| **Multimedia Software** | QuickTime® for Windows 4.1.2 required at all stations | • QuickTime for Windows 4.1.2 required at all stations<br>• MPEG software solutions recommended for stations using the full-motion video option |
| **Audio** | Any Creative Labs sound card, including Sound Blaster® 16 (or 32), PCI 64, or 16-bit ViBRA® series products | Any Creative Labs sound card, including Sound Blaster 16 (or 32), PCI 64, or 16-bit ViBRA series products |
| **Special Software/Equipment** | • Excel 5.0 required at learning station running SuccessMaker® graphic reports (may require additional RAM)<br>• Desktop protection software optional<br>• Antivirus software optional | • Excel 5.0 (or higher) required at learning station running SuccessMaker graphic reports (may require additional RAM)<br>• Desktop protection software recommended.<br>• Antivirus software recommended |

* SOLO = standalone option for learning opportunities; a standalone computer running NCS Learn software.

# Macintosh Stations

| Component | Minimum Requirements* | Recommendations |
|---|---|---|
| **Operating Systems** | Specified below | Specified below |
| • Mac® OS 7.6.1 to 8.1 | • Processor: PowerPC™ 601 @ 100 MHz (or faster), or PowerPC 603 @ 75 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 32 MB<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors | • Processor: G3 @ 233 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 32 MB (or more)<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors |
| • Mac OS 8.5 to 8.6.1 | • Processor: G3 @ 233 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 32 MB<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors | • Processor: G3 @ 333 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 64 MB (or more)<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors |
| • Mac OS 9.x | • Processor: G3 @ 233 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 64 MB<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors | • Processor: G3 @ 333 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 64 MB (or more)<br>• Video Memory (VRAM): 1 MB (or more) to support thousands of colors |
| **Monitor Resolution** | 800 x 600 with 256 colors<br>**NOTE:** Power Macintosh® LC 5260 stations DO NOT support 800 x 600 resolution. | 800 x 600 with thousands of colors<br>**NOTE:** Power Macintosh LC 5260 stations DO NOT support 800 x 600 resolution. |
| **Hard Disk Drive Space** | 200 MB (minimum) of free disk space | 200 MB (minimum) of free disk space |
| | **NOTE:** Free disk space is the space remaining on the disk after the operating system and all third-party applications have been installed. The history station on a peer-to-peer network requires additional free disk space; NCS Learn recommends 1 MB per student (for the student's portfolio files and workbook files, if any). | |
| **CD-ROM and/or DVD Drive** | **SOLO† and peer-to-peer stations:**<br>• One 4x CD-ROM drive at each station to run the courseware<br>• One additional 4x CD-ROM drive at each station using the full-motion video option<br>**Stations on server-based networks:**<br>• One 2x (or faster) DVD drive at one of the stations for installing the courseware<br>• One 2x DVD drive or one 4x CD-ROM drive for each station that is using the full-motion video option | **SOLO and peer-to-peer stations:**<br>• One 8x CD-ROM drive at each station to run the courseware<br>• One additional 8x CD-ROM drive at each station using the full-motion video option<br>**Stations on server-based networks:**<br>• One 2x (or faster) DVD drive at one of the stations for installing the courseware<br>• One 2x DVD drive or one 8x CD-ROM drive for each station that is using the full-motion video option |
| **Multimedia software** | QuickTime for Macintosh 4.1.2 required at all stations | QuickTime for Macintosh 4.1.2 required at all stations |
| **Audio** | Built-in | Built-in |
| **Special Software/Equipment** | • Excel 4.0 required at any station running SuccessMaker graphic reports (may require additional RAM)<br>• Desktop protection software optional<br>• Antivirus software optional | • Excel 4.0 or higher required at any station running SuccessMaker graphic reports (may require additional RAM)<br>• Desktop protection software recommended<br>• Antivirus software recommended |

* If you are using the Writer's Studio course, you must use the system specifications listed in the Recommendations column.

† SOLO = standalone option for learning opportunities; a standalone computer running NCS Learn software.

## Intel-Based File Servers

Windows-based and Macintosh® stations cannot be mixed on the same file server.

| Component | Minimum Requirements* | Recommendations |
|---|---|---|
| **Network Operating System** | Specified below | Specified below |
| • Novell® NetWare® 3.12, Novell NetWare 4.1x, or Microsoft® Windows NT® Server 4.0 | • Processor: Pentium @ 133 MHz<br>• Memory: 128 MB | • Processor: Pentium II @ 233 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 256 MB |
| • Microsoft Windows® 2000 Server | • Processor: Pentium III @ 450 MHz<br>• Memory: 256 MB | • Processor: Pentium III @ 450 MHz<br>• Memory: 256 MB |
| • NetWare 5<br>**NOTE:** Macintosh stations are not supported with Novell NetWare 5 Server software. | • Processor: Pentium @ 133 MHz<br>• Memory: 256 MB | • Processor: Pentium II @ 233 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 256 MB |
| **Network Hardware** | 10-Mbps Ethernet | 10/100-Mbps Switched Ethernet |
| **Hard Disk Drive Space** | Depends on the courseware (see "Hard Disk Requirements") | Depends on the courseware (see "Hard Disk Requirements") |
| **Hard Drive Subsystem** | SCSI drive and controller | SCSI drive and controller |
| **CD-ROM Drive** | One 4x (or faster) CD-ROM drive per system | One 8x (or faster) CD-ROM drive per system |
| **Backup Device** | One backup device and backup software per system, installed either on the server or on a workstation | One backup device and backup software per system, installed either on the server or on a workstation |
| **Uninterruptible Power Supply** | One per system | One per system |

* If you are using the Writer's Studio course, you must use the system specifications listed in the Recommendations column.

## AppleShare-Based File Servers

| Component | Minimum Requirements* | Recommendations |
|---|---|---|
| **Network Operating System** | AppleShare® IP 5.x<br>• Processor: G3 @ 300 MHz<br>• Memory: 128 MB<br>• Operating System: Mac OS 8.0 | AppleShare IP 6.1 or higher<br>• G3 @ 300 MHz (or faster)<br>• Memory: 256 MB<br>• Operating System: Mac OS 8.1 or higher |
| | **NOTE:** Specific versions of Apple®'s network operating system software (e.g., AppleShare IP 6) require specific versions of operating system software (e.g., OS 8.1). For details, contact your Apple representative. | |
| **Network Hardware** | 10-Mbps Ethernet | 10/100-Mbps Switched Ethernet |
| **Hard Disk Drive Space** | Depends on the courseware (see "Hard Disk Requirements") | Depends on the courseware (see "Hard Disk Requirements") |
| **Hard Drive Subsystem** | SCSI drive and controller | SCSI drive and controller |
| **CD-ROM Drive** | One 4x (or faster) CD-ROM drive per system | One 8x (or faster) CD-ROM drive per system |
| **Backup Device** | One backup device and backup software per system, installed either on the server or on a workstation | One backup device and backup software per system, installed either on the server or on a workstation |
| **Uninterruptible Power Supply** | One per server | One per server |

* If you are using the Writer's Studio course, you must use the system specifications listed in the Recommendations column.

# Hard Disk Requirements

## File Server

| Course or Package Name | Curriculum Size (MB)* | History Volume Size (MB) | Total Size | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | (MB) | (GB) |
| Comprehensive Packages | | | | |
| Elementary School Core Plus | 6,032 | 4,000 | 10,032 | 11 |
| Early Elementary Selection Plus, Grades K–3 | 3,906 | 2,500 | 6,406 | 7 |
| Upper Elementary Selection Plus, Grades 4–6 | 3,906 | 2,500 | 6,406 | 7 |
| Middle School Core Plus | 3,906 | 2,500 | 6,406 | 7 |
| Focused Packages | | | | |
| Math Core Plus | 1,953 | 1,500 | 3,453 | 4 |
| Reading Core Plus | 5,859 | 2,500 | 8,359 | 9 |
| Reading and Writing Results Plus, Grades K–1 | 1,953 | 2,500 | 4,453 | 5 |
| Reading and Writing Results Plus, Grades 1–2 | 1,953 | 2,500 | 4,453 | 5 |
| Reading and Writing Results Plus, Grades 3–6 | 1,953 | 2,500 | 4,453 | 5 |
| Reading and Writing Results Plus, Grades 6–8 | 1,953 | 2,500 | 4,453 | 5 |
| English Language Development Plus, Grades K–6 | 2,900 | 1,500 | 4,400 | 5 |
| Math Results Plus, Grades K–2 | 1,953 | 1,500 | 3,453 | 4 |
| Math Results, Grades 6–8 | 1,953 | 500 | 2,453 | 3 |
| Individual Courses | | | | |
| Math Corner™ | 143 | 1,500 | 1,643 | 2 |
| Reading Adventures Primary™ with Story Painter | 1,393 | 1,500 | 2,893 | 3 |
| Story Painter® | 171 | 1,500 | 1,671 | 2 |
| ¡Vamos a leer!® with Spanish Story Painter | 662 | 1,500 | 2,162 | 3 |
| Writer's Studio™ | 339 | 1,500 | 1,839 | 2 |
| Algebra Topics | 105 | 500 | 605 | 1 |
| Discover English™ | 492 | 500 | 603 | 1 |
| First Adventures Bookshelf™ | 379 | 500 | 879 | 1 |
| GED Preparation, Revised | 194 | 500 | 694 | 1 |

* Curriculum size requirements are based on standard NCS Learn volume sizes. NCS Learn recommends a dedicated server volume for installation of SuccessMaker curriculum.

**NOTE:** The Curriculum Size, History Volume Size, and Total Size columns show disk space needed for SuccessMaker courseware only; they do not include additional space needed for running the network operating system (NOS). Use this chart to calculate the space needed for SuccessMaker courseware. Then consult the NOS vendor's Web page or your user manual to determine how much additional space is required for the NOS.

| Course or Package Name | Curriculum Size (MB)* | History Volume Size (MB) | Total Size | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | (MB) | (GB) |
| Individual Courses *Continued* | | | | |
| Initial Reading | 216 | 500 | 716 | 1 |
| Math Concepts and Skills with MCSS | 756 | 500 | 1,256 | 2 |
| Math Concepts and Skills | 500 | 500 | 1,000 | 1 |
| Math Concepts and Skills, Spanish | 362 | 500 | 862 | 1 |
| Math Investigations® with Math Processor™ | 522 | 500 | 1,022 | 2 |
| Reader's Workshop | 123 | 500 | 623 | 1 |
| Reading Adventures™ | 1,436 | 500 | 1,936 | 2 |
| Reading Investigations™ | 658 | 500 | 1,158 | 2 |
| Reading Readiness | 127 | 500 | 627 | 1 |
| Spelling Skills | 180 | 500 | 680 | 1 |

* Curriculum size requirements are based on standard NCS Learn volume sizes. NCS Learn recommends a dedicated server volume for installation of SuccessMaker curriculum.

**NOTE:** The Curriculum Size, History Volume Size, and Total Size columns show disk space needed for SuccessMaker courseware only; they do not include additional space needed for running the network operating system (NOS). Use this chart to calculate the space needed for SuccessMaker courseware. Then consult the NOS vendor's Web page or your user manual to determine how much additional space is required for the NOS.

# Network Capacities

## Peer-to-Peer Network

| Platform | Ethernet Topology | File Server | Number of 10/100-Mbps Switches Required | Maximum Number of Stations Supported |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Macintosh | 10BaseT or 100BaseTX | None | None | 10 |
| Windows-based | 10BaseT or 100BaseTX | None | None | 10 |

NCS Learn recommends using 10/100-Mbps Switched Ethernet for all new server-based network installations, with a *maximum of 15 devices per switch port*.

## AppleShare IP (PowerPC Clients), network with all Macintosh clients

| Ethernet Topology | File Server | Number of 10/100-Mbps Switches Required | Number of NICs Required | Maximum Number of Stations Supported |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/100 Switched | G3 @ 300 MHz (or faster) | 1 | 1 | 120 |
| 100BaseTX | G3 @ 300 MHz (or faster) | None | 1 | 60 |
| 10BaseT | PowerPC 601 @ 120 MHz (using AppleShare 5.x) | None | 1 | 15 |

## Windows NT Server 4.0, network with all Windows clients

| Ethernet Topology | File Server | Number of 10/100-Mbps Switches Required | Number of NICs Required | Maximum Number of Stations Supported |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/100 Switched | Pentium II @ 233 MHz | 2 | 2 | 240 |
| 100BaseTX | Pentium @ 233 MHz | None | 2 | 120 |
| 10BaseT | Pentium @ 133 MHz | None | 2 | 30 |

## Windows NT Server 4.0, network with all Macintosh clients

| Ethernet Topology | File Server | Number of 10/100-Mbps Switches Required | Number of NICs Required | Maximum Number of Stations Supported |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/100 Switched | Pentium II @ 233 MHz | 2 | 2 | 240 |
| 100BaseTX | Pentium II @ 233 MHz | None | 2 | 120 |
| 100BaseTX | Pentium @ 133 MHz | None | 1 | 60 |
| 10BaseT | Pentium @ 133 MHz | None | 2 | 30 |

## Windows 2000 Server, network with all Macintosh or all Windows clients

| Ethernet Topology | File Server | Number of 10/100-Mbps Switches Required | Number of NICs Required | Maximum Number of Stations Supported |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/100 Switched | Pentium III @ 450 MHz | 2 | 2 | 240 |
| 100BaseTX | Pentium III @ 450 MHz | None | 2 | 120 |

## Novell NetWare 4.1x (or higher), network with all Windows clients

| Ethernet Topology | File Server | Number of 10/100-Mbps Switches Required | Number of NICs Required | Maximum Number of Stations Supported |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/100 Switched | Pentium II @ 233 MHz | 2 | 2 | 240 |
| 100BaseTX | Pentium II @ 233 MHz | None | 2 | 240 |
| 100BaseTX | Pentium @ 133 MHz | None | 1 | 120 |
| 10BaseT | Pentium @ 133 MHz | None | 2 | 30 |

## Novell NetWare 4.1x, network with all Macintosh clients

Macintosh stations are not supported when using Novell Netware 5 Server software.

| Ethernet Topology | File Server | Number of 10/100-Mbps Switches Required | Number of NICs Required | Maximum Number of Stations Supported |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/100 Switched | Pentium II @ 233 MHz | 1 | 1 | 120 |
| 100BaseTX | Pentium II @ 233 MHz | None | 1 | 120 |
| 100BaseTX | Pentium @ 133 MHz | None | 1 | 60 |
| 10BaseT | Pentium @ 133 MHz | None | 2 | 30 |